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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 12, 1990 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 7 totaled 338,220, down 2.9 percent from the comparable week of 1989 and 4.4 percent below the preceding week of 1990, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 4.6 percent in the East and 0.8 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1989 week, motor vehicles and equipment loadings decreased by 3,432 cars (16.0 percent). Loadings of metallic ores were down 2,584 cars (13.1 percent), while grain loadings fell by 3,715 cars (11.4 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 14 weeks of 1990 totaled 4,704,486, up 0.8 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 120,302 trailers and/or containers for the week ended April 7, up 2.8 percent from the comparable week of 1989.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 14 weeks of 1990 was 1,633,709 trailers and/or containers, 4.0 percent above the comparable 1989 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended April 7 totaled 19.8 billion, down 0.5 percent from the comparable week of 1989. Cumulative volume for the first 14 weeks of 1990 was an estimated 273.1 billion ton-miles, up 1.5 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 7, 1990

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING APRIL 7, 1990	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1989	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	28,840	32,555	-11.4 %	29,482	-2.2 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,808	2,307	-21.6	1,784	1.3
Metallic Ores	17,164	19,748	-13.1	17,157	.0
Coal	125,986	125,486	.4	133,120	-5.4
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	14,575	14,894	-2.1	15,238	-4.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,986	9,542	4.7	10,129	-1.4
Grain Mill Products	10,169	10,225	-.5	10,435	-2.5
Food & Kindred Products	8,614	8,476	1.6	8,955	-3.8
Primary Forest Products	9,856	10,354	-4.8	10,331	-4.6
Lumber & Wood Products	6,616	6,594	.3	7,886	-16.1
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,487	10,512	-.2	11,505	-8.8
Chemicals	29,281	29,821	-1.8	30,113	-2.8
Petroleum Products	4,941	4,967	-.5	5,184	-4.7
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,133	10,154	-.2	10,548	-3.9
Coke	6,380	5,372	18.8	5,991	6.5
Metals & Products	9,529	9,382	1.6	10,887	-12.5
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	18,021	21,453	-16.0	20,366	-11.5
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,674	9,219	-5.9	8,390	3.4
All Other Carloads	7,160	7,176	-.2	6,370	12.4
Total	338,220	348,237	-2.9 %	353,871	-4.4 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING APRIL 7, 1990			CUMULATIVE: 14 WEEKS ENDING APRIL 7, 1990		
	1990	1989	CHANGE	1990	1989	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	338,220	348,237	-2.9 %	4,704,486	4,668,031	.8 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	68,745	68,066	1.0	925,656	911,972	1.5
Containers	51,557	49,010	5.2	708,053	658,986	7.4
Total	120,302	117,076	2.8	1,633,709	1,570,958	4.0
Estimated Ton-Miles Class I Railroads (Billions)	19.8	19.9	-.5 %	273.1	269.1	1.5 %

NOTE: Effective with Week 13, Southern Pacific figures include the SSW and DRGW. SP's traffic for prior weeks is the sum of SP's, SSW's and DRGW's traffic. Traffic interchanged among these roads prior to Week 13 has not been excluded from "received" traffic.